

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 IO-11 SY-05 SCCT-01 A-01 SAJ-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2173

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

USMISSION USUN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ASEC, UR, US

SUBJ: APRIL 6 PROTEST NOTE ON HARASSMENT IN MOSCOW

REF: MOSCOW 5129

1. AS INDICATED REFTEL, ADCM BREMENT, ACCOMPANIED BY COMBS, DELIVERED NOTE TO DEPUTY CHIEF OF MFA'S U.S. DIVISION FEDOSEYEV APRIL 6 PROTESTING CONTINUATION AND INTENSIFICATION OF THE HARASSMENT CAMPAIGN AGAINST EMBASSY PERSONNEL IN MOSCOW.

2. AFTER READING THE NOTE (TEXT BELOW) TO FEDOSEYEV, BREMENT SAID HE PERSONALLY COULD NOT UNDERSTAND THE PURPOSE BEHIND THIS HARASSMENT. WE SYMPATHIZED WITH SOVIET CONCERN OVER EVENTS IN THE U.S. AND FULLY SHARED THE VIEWS OF THE PRESIDENT CONDEMN-ING HARASSMENT OF SOVIET OFFICIALS THERE, BUT SOVIET RETALIATION IN MOSCOW SEEMED PREMISED ON THE IDEA THAT TWO WRONGS MAKE A RIGHT. THIS SORT OF RESPONSE TO THE DEPLORABLE SITUATION IN THE U.S. COULD ONLY HARM U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS.

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3. BREMENT ADDED THAT THE EMBASSY WAS PREPARED TO

COOPERATE FULLY WITH THE MINISTRY, AND HOPED SOVIETS IN THE U.S. WOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO TESTIFY IN COURT WHEN THIS WAS ADVISED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES. HE NOTED THAT THESE AUTHORITIES HAD BEEN REQUESTED AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL TO LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED IN INVESTIGATING ILLEGAL ACTS COMMITTED AGAINST SOVIET REPRESENTATIVES IN THE U.S. AND IN BRINGING THE GUILTY PARTIES TO JUSTICE.

4.FEDOSEYEV RESPONDED THAT HE WOULD REPORT THIS DEMARCHE TO HIS SUPERIORS RIGHT AWAY. HE SAID HE COULD NOT ACCEPT THE ALLEGATION THAT "ALL OF THESE ACTIVITIES" WERE DONE ON INSTRUCTIONS AND REPEATED THE STANDARD MFA LINE ABOUT THE INDIGANTION OF SOVIET PEOPLE OVER HARASSMENT OF THEIR REPRESENTATIVES IN THE U.S. FEDOSEYEV SAID THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT WAS WELCOME, AND "A GOOD THING," BUT THE FACT REMAINED THAT NO A SINGLE CRIMINAL HAD BEEN PUNISHED FOR RECENT EVENTS IN NEW YORK. THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR NOT TAKING ACTION AGAINST THOSE RESPONSIBLE MUST REST ON U.S. SHOULDERS, HE ADDED.

5. TEXT OF NOTE IS AS FOLLOWS. TEXT OF THE THREATENING PORTIONS OF THE TWO LETTERS MENTIONED IN THE NOTE FOLLOW SEPTTEL.

BEGIN TEXT:

THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ONCE AGAIN CALLS THE ATTENTION O/THFOMINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS TO THE HARASSMENT CAMPAIGN DIRECTED AGAINST THE EMBASSY AND ITS STAFF. DESPITE THE EMBASSY'S EMPHATIC REQUEST OF APRIL 1 THAT MEASURES BE TAKEN TO HALT THIS HARASSMENT, IT HAS IN FACT BECOME MORE INTENSE.

ON FRIDAY, APRIL 2 THE EMBASSY RECEIVED TWO HANDWRITTEN LETTERS, BOTH ADDRESSED TO AMBASSADOR STOESSEL. ONE, SIGNED BY A. SHUTOV, ULITSA TUKHACHEVSKOVO 21, CORPUS 1, APARTMENT 87, MOSCOW D-154, SPECIFICALLY THREATENS AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES IN THE USSR. THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OTHER, SIGNED BY IGOR' GUCHKOV -- IDENTIFIED ONLY AS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE MOSCOW METRO -- MENTIONS THE PERSONAL SAFETY OF THE AMBASSADOR AND HIS FAMILY AND INDIRECTLY BUT UNMISTAKENLY THREATENS THE AMBASSADOR AND THE EMBASSY WITH "AN INTOLERABLE SITUATION." COPIES OF THESE LETTERS ARE ATTACHED. THREATS BY SOVIET CITIZENS AGAINST THE PERSON OF THE AMBASSADOR, HIS FAMILY, AND EMBASSY PERSONNEL CLEARLY ARE INTOLERABLE. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING

THAT SUCH THREATS ARE NOT IN KEEPING WITH SOVIET LAWS AND REGULATIONS. THE EMBASSY REQUESTS THE MINISTRY TO INFORM THE EMBASSY PROMPTLY OF THE LEGAL SANCTIONS LEVIED AGAINST MR. SHUTOV AND MR. GUCHKOV.

THE CAMPAIGN OF HARASSING TELEPHONE CALLS TO THE RESIDENCES OF EMBASSY OFFICERS CONTINUED DURING THE WEEKEND OF APRIL 3-4.

DURING THE WEEKEND OF APRIL 3-4, THREE EMBASSY OFFICERS -- FIRST SECRETARY JAMES WILKINSON, FIRST SECRETARY RICHARD COMBS, AND SECOND SECRETARY ROBERT MILLER -- WERE SUBJECTED TO CLOSE, HARASSING VEHICULAR SURVEILLANCE WHICH ENDANGERED THEM AND THEIR PASSENGERS. THIS SURVEILLANCE CONTINUED ON MONDAY, APRIL 5. THE VEHICLES ENGAGED IN THIS DANGEROUS ACTIVITY INCLUDED: VOLGA 85-19 MKO, VOLGA 38-42 MMZH, VOLGA 71-26 KBZH, MOSKVITCH 21-04 MMZH.

ON SUNDAY, APRIL 4, AT 12:45 P.M. FIRST SECRETARY WILKINSON WAS PHYSICALLY DETAINED BY FOUR RUSSIAN-SPEAKING MALES IN THE PARKING LOT IN FRONT OF THE BERYOZKA SHOP NEAR THE NOVODEVICHYI CEMETERY. THESE INDIVIDUALS, WHO GAVE NO EVIDENCE OF BEING UNDER INSTRUCTIONS, THREATENED TO DAMAGE MR. WILKINSON'S AUTOMOBILE.

ON MONDAY, APRIL 5, AT ABOUT 7:30 P.M., COUNSELOR FOR PRESS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS RAYMOND BENSON WAS FORCIBLY DETAINED AND PERSONALLY THREATENED BY A GROUP OF SIX RUSSIAN-SPEAKING MALES IN THE DRIVEWAY LEADING TO THE CHAYKOVSKIY CONSERVATORY CONCERT HALL. THESE INDIVIDUALS, WHO ALSO GAVE NO EVIDENCE OF BEING UNDER INSTRUCTIONS, EXERTED CRUDE PHYSICAL FORCE AGAINST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COUNSELOR BENSON, PUSHING AND SHOIVING HIM AND GRASPING HIS CLOTHING. THREATENING NOTES WERE ATTACHED TO THE PERSONAL AUTOMOBILES OF SECOND SECRETARY ROBERT MILLER AND SECOND SECRETARY JACK GOSNELL ON APRIL 3 AND APRIL 5, RESPECTIVELY.

AS THE EMBASSY HAS REPEATEDLY POINTED OUT, ORCHESTRATED INTIMIDATION AND THREATS AGAINST UNITED STATES OFFICIALS IN THE USSR AND THEIR FAMILIES CAN ONLY HARM RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. MOREOVER, THIS CAMPAIGN OF HARASSMENT MAY ENCOURAGE IRRESPONSIBLE ELEMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES AND THUS COMPLICATE THE EFFORTS OF COMPETENT AUTHORITIES TO ENSURE THE WELFARE OF SOVIET PERSONNEL IN THE U.S. AS THE MINISTRY MUST BE AWARE, THE SOVIET MISSION

TO THE UNITED NATIONS HAS RECEIVED THE FULL COOPERATION OF LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL AUTHORITIES IN RESOLVING THIS DEPLORABLE PROBLEM, AND THE PERPETRATORS OF HARASSMENT OF SOVIET OFFICIALS IN THE U.S. HAVE BEEN PUBLICLY CON- DEMNED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AND THE MAYOR OF NEW YORK, AND MANY OTHER U.S. OFFICIALS.

THE TIMING AND THE SPECIFIC NATURE OF ACTIVITIES WHICH MAKE UP THE CAMPAIGN OF HARASSMENT DESCRIBED IN THIS AND PREVIOUS NOTES LEAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE CAMPAIGN CANNOT BE CHARACTERIZED MERELY AS A SPONTANEOUS EXPRESSION OF POPULAR CONCERN OVER THE WELFARE OF SOVIET OFFICIALS IN THE UNITED STATES. THE EMBASSY MUST INSIST THAT THIS CAMPAIGN BE HALTED AT ONCE, AND REQUESTS THE IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION, APPREHENSION AND PUNISHMENT OF GUILTY PARTIES. THE EMBASSY ALSO REQUESTS AN IMMEDIATE REPORT FROM THE MINISTRY ON MEASURES TAKEN BY THE SOVIET SIDE TO ENSURE THAT HARASSMENT OF AMERICAN PERSONNEL IN THE SOVIET UNION IS NEITHER CONTINUED NOR REPEATED. END TEXT. STOESEL

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## Message Attributes

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